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No. 50

House of Representatives

The House met at 2 p.m. and was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. CULBERSON).

DESIGNATION OF THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from the Speaker:

WASHINGTON, DC,

April 29, 2002.

I hereby appoint the Honorable JOHN ABNEY CULBERSON to act as Speaker pro tempore on this day.

J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker of the House of Representatives.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Daniel P. Coughlin, offered the following prayer: Lord, God eternal, over the weekend we assembled for worship, that we may keep Your commands and keep holy the day set aside for You.

Now we ask You to bless our work and our coworkers.

Make our labor holy because it is dedicated to You and performed in Your spirit.

Be attentive to the needs of this Nation and to all who serve in the military and in government.

We pray for the sick and those who care for them.

Show Your loving presence to all those who are fearful or in distress.

Grant determination and rehabilitation to all who suffer loss or are in recovery from drugs or natural disasters.

Hear the prayers we offer with renewed faith, for our trust is in You, now and forever. Amen.

THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Will the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. GIBBONS led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

NUCLEAR WASTE STORAGE AT YUCCA MOUNTAIN

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, today, I come to the well of the House to discuss the risk of storing high-level deadly nuclear waste in a hole in the Nevada desert called Yucca Mountain. Mr. Speaker, this will be the first geologic repository for high-level nuclear waste.

No one can predict what the next 10,000 years will bring at Yucca Mountain, no matter whether we are discussing seismic activity, volcanic activity or meteorological activity. Mr. Speaker, how can we even decide what language to use on the "no trespassing" signs that will be pertinent 10,000 years from now?

Regardless of what the DOE crystal ball may show, the future is unknown, as is the stability of Yucca Mountain. Even DOE's own scientists question its suitability. No matter how many billions of dollars the DOE has spent on Yucca Mountain, they still cannot make that mountain a geologically-sound repository. Instead, they have to rely on engineered barriers, barriers which could just as easily be used on

site, thereby diverting disastrous transportation risks.

Mr. Speaker, the Yucca Mountain project is fatally flawed; and no amount of money, nor square pegs in a round hole, can keep Nevadans and Americans safe from its failings.

COMMUNICATION FROM CHIEF OF STAFF OF HON. XAVIER BECERRA, MEMBER OF CONGRESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore laid before the House the following communication from Krista Atteberry, Chief of Staff, of the Honorable XAVIER BECERRA, Member of Congress:

XAVIER BECERRA,

Washington, DC, April 22, 2002.

Hon. J. DENNIS HASTERT,
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. SPEAKER: This is to notify you formally, pursuant to Rule VIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, that the Custodian of Records, Office of Congressman XAVIER BECERRA, has been served with a subpoena for documents issued by the Los Angeles County Superior Court of California.

After consultation with the Office of General Counsel, I will make the determinations required by Rule VIII.

Sincerely,

KRISTA ATTEBERRY,
Chief of Staff.

OMISSION FROM THE CONGRESSIONAL RECORD OF APRIL 25, 2002, AT PAGE H1670

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. NORWOOD) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. NORWOOD addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.



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